

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed June 18, 2008, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for Continued Examination*. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 13, 2004.

A further Information Disclosure Statement was submitted on June 11, 2008 (received by OIPE June 16, 2008), and consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-130 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1-7, 100 and 101 are independent. Independent claims 1-7, 100 and 101 have been amended to better recite the features of the present invention, and dependent claims 11, 68-71, 102, 103 and 105 have been amended for consistency and to correct minor informalities. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 1-7, 32-49, 72-103 and 116-121 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Patent No. 6,404,137 to Shodo and U.S. Patent No. 6,480,305 to Resman. The Applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained against the independent claims of the present application, as amended.

As stated in MPEP §§ 2142-2143.01, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some reason, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some reason to do so found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. "The test for an implicit showing is what the combined teachings, knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, and the nature of the problem to be solved as a whole would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art." In re Kotzab, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000). See also In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest all the features of the independent claims, as amended. Specifically, independent claims 1 and 101 have been amended to recite "wherein the second circuit is configured to select either one of the sensor portion and the liquid crystal element portion, and output a pulse signal based on the timing signal to the selected one of the sensor portion and the liquid crystal element portion." Independent claim 100 has been amended in a manner similar to claim 1, except that claim 100 recites "light emitting element portion" instead of "liquid crystal element portion." That is, claims 1, 100 and 101 recite that a second circuit is configured to select either one of a sensor portion and a liquid crystal element portion (light emitting element portion), and output a pulse signal based on a timing signal to a selected one of the sensor portion and the liquid crystal element portion (light emitting element portion). Also, at this opportunity, in claim 101, line 2, a semicolon was added at the end of the line. Dependent claims 102 and 103 have been amended for clarity.

Independent claim 2 has been amended to recite "wherein the first logical circuit is electrically connected to the sensor portion, and the second logical circuit is electrically connected to the light emitting element portion, wherein the second circuit is so configured that either one of the first logical circuit and the second logical circuit outputs a pulse signal based on the timing signal to the pixel portion." Independent

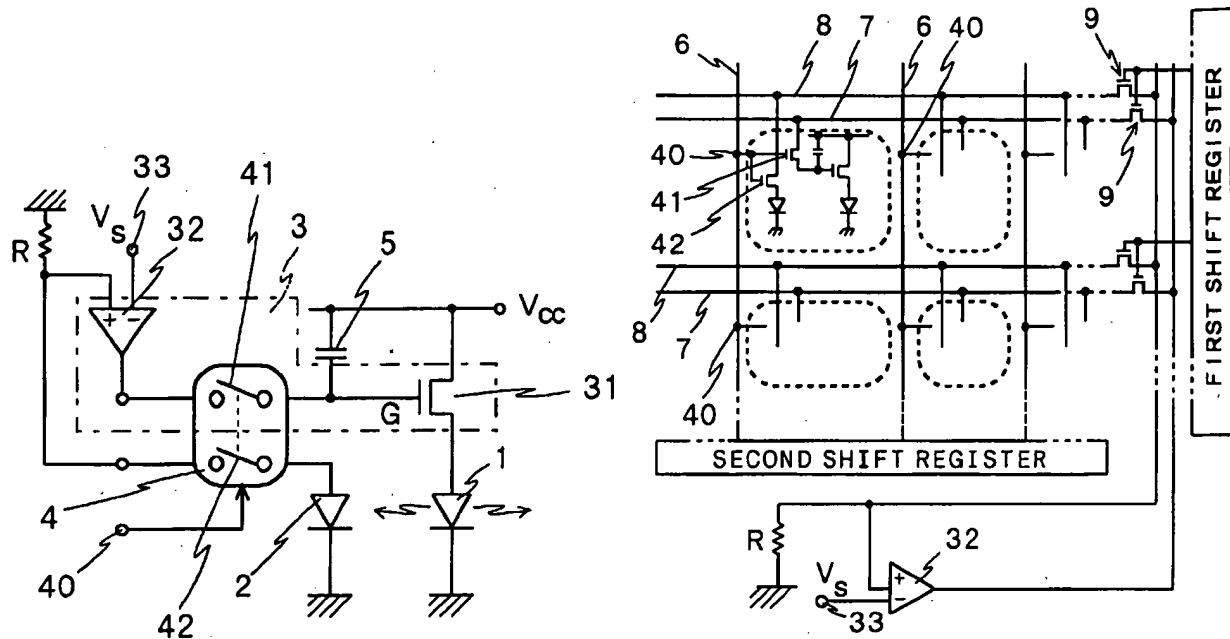
claim 3 has been amended in a manner similar to claim 2, except that claim 3 recites "liquid crystal element portion" instead of "light emitting element portion." Independent claims 4 and 5 have been amended to recite "wherein a gate of the first TFT is electrically connected to the first logical circuit, and a gate of the second TFT is electrically connected to the second logical circuit, ... wherein the second circuit is so configured that either one of the first logical circuit and the second logical circuit outputs a pulse signal based on the timing signal to the pixel portion." That is, claims 2-5 recite that a second circuit is so configured that either one of a first logical circuit and a second logical circuit outputs a pulse signal based on a timing signal to a pixel portion.

Independent claims 6 and 7 has been amended by changing "an off signal" and "a pulse signal" to "a non-selection signal" and "a selection signal based on the timing signal," respectively. As such, claims 6 and 7 have been amended to recite "wherein the second circuit is so configured that, when one of the first logical circuit and the second logical circuit outputs a non-selection signal to one of the first TFT and the second TFT, the other of the first logical circuit and the second logical circuit outputs a selection signal based on the timing signal to the other of the first TFT and the second TFT."

These features are supported in the present specification, for example, by Embodiment Mode 1. For the reasons provided below, Shodo and Resman, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-referenced features of the present invention.

The Official Action appears to assert that the switching elements 41 and 42 of Shodo correspond with a first thin film transistor of a sensor portion of the present claims and a second thin film transistor of a light emitting element portion of the present claims; and that the switching elements 9 of Shodo correspond with a second circuit and first and second logical circuits of the present claims (pages 2-4, Paper No. 20080610). The Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the assertions in the Official Action.

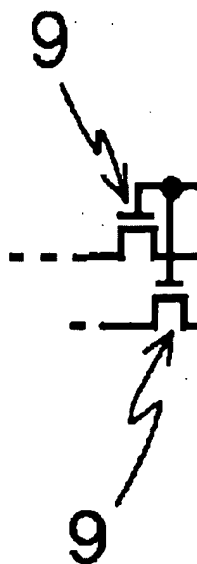
Shodo discloses the following: "A control terminal 40 is also provided for controlling the switching actions of the two switching elements 41 and 42 at one time" (see column 4, lines 36-38; emphasis added; Figures 1 and 2 reproduced below).



In Shodo, the emission of light from the light emitting element 1 is controlled using an output current from the light receiving element 2 by a feedback control using a comparator 32. As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that the feature that two switching elements 41 and 42 are turned on at the same time is an essential technical feature of Shodo. If one of the two switching elements 41 and 42 is off, then the display device cannot control the emission of light from the light emitting element 1, as described in Shodo.

Since the switching elements 41 and 42 of Shodo are turned on at the same time, it is not reasonable to assert that switching elements 41 and 42 correspond with a first thin film transistor of a sensor portion of the present claims and a second thin film transistor of a light emitting element portion of the present claims.

Also, in Shodo, two transistors constituting switching elements 9 are controlled at the same time since gate terminals of the transistors are connected to the same node (portion of Figure 2 reproduced below).



As noted above, since the emission of light from the light emitting element 1 is controlled using an output current from the light receiving element 2 by a feedback control using a comparator 32, the Applicant respectfully submits that the feature that two switching elements 9 are controlled at the same time (since gate terminals of the transistors are connected to the same node) is an essential technical feature. If the two switching elements 9 are not controlled at the same time or are not connected to the same node, then the display device cannot control the emission of light from the light emitting element 1, as described in Shodo.

Since the switching elements 9 of Shodo are controlled at the same time, it is not reasonable to assert that the switching elements 9 correspond with a second circuit and first and second logical circuits of the present claims.

Resman does not cure the deficiencies in Shodo. Resman is relied upon to allegedly teach "a liquid crystal element with a backlight light emitting element" (page 4, Paper No. 20080610). However, Shodo and Resman, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest (1) that switching elements 41 and 42 of Shodo could or should correspond with a first thin film transistor of a sensor portion of the present claims and a second thin film transistor of a light emitting element portion of the present claims; (2) that the switching elements 9 of Shodo could or should correspond with a second circuit

and first and second logical circuits of the present claims; (3) that a second circuit is configured to select either one of a sensor portion and a liquid crystal element portion (light emitting element portion), and output a pulse signal based on a timing signal to a selected one of the sensor portion and the liquid crystal element portion (light emitting element portion); (4) that a second circuit is so configured that either one of a first logical circuit and a second logical circuit outputs a pulse signal based on a timing signal to a pixel portion; or (5) that a second circuit is so configured that, when one of a first logical circuit and a second logical circuit outputs a non-selection signal to one of a first TFT and a second TFT, the other of the first logical circuit and the second logical circuit outputs a selection signal based on a timing signal to the other of the first TFT and the second TFT.

Since Shodo and Resman do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are in order and respectfully requested.


The Official Action rejects dependent claims 8-31, 50-61 and 104-115 as obvious based on the combination of Shodo, Resman and U.S. Patent No. 7,196,699 to Kubota. The Official Action rejects dependent claims 62-64 as obvious based on the combination of Shodo, Resman, JP 11-125841 to Chiyon and U.S. Patent No. 6,246,180 to Nishigaki. The Official Action rejects claims 65-71 as obvious based on the combination of Shodo, Resman and Chiyon.

Please incorporate the arguments above with respect to the deficiencies in Shodo and Resman. Kubota, Chiyon and Nishigaki do not cure the deficiencies in Shodo and Resman. The Official Action relies on Kubota, Chiyon and Nishigaki to allegedly teach the features of the above-referenced dependent claims. Specifically, the Official Action relies on Kubota to allegedly teach "the use of NAND, AND, NOR or OR gates as switching devices for outputs to shift registers" and "a specialized shift register circuit ... connected to at least one inverter circuit" (pages 6-7, Paper No.

20080610), on Chiyou to allegedly teach "a sensor driver TFT and a sensor reset TFT" (pages 7-9, Id.), and on Nishigaki to allegedly teach "a reset TFT" (page 8, Id.). However, Shodo, Resman, Kubota, Chiyou and Nishigaki, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest (1) through (5), noted in detail above. Since Shodo, Resman, Kubota, Chiyou and Nishigaki do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are in order and respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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